

In The Claims:

Cancel claims 1-11 and add new claims 12-18.

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (new):

12. An optic fiber connection system which includes first and second mateable connectors that each have a housing, each housing having at least one body passage extending in front and rear longitudinal directions and each connection system including at least one of a pair of mateable optic fiber terminus assemblies, with at least a first one of said terminus assemblies including a terminus and a terminus spring that biases the terminus toward the mating terminus assembly, wherein:

the first housing of said first connector includes a first frame and a first body slideable in longitudinal directions in said first frame, said at least one body passage in said first housing being formed in said first frame;

a pair of body springs and means connected to said body spring for urging said body forward with respect to said first frame, said means having a pair of front surface locations that lie on opposite sides of said passage, said front surface locations being exposed to be pressed rearward to prevent further forward

15 movement of the first body.

said second housing has a pair of standoffs positioned to engage said pair of front surfaces, to stop further forward urging of said body by said pair of body springs.

Claim 13 (new):

13. The connection system described in claim 12 wherein:

5 said means for urging includes a backup with a first part that lies directly behind said frame, and with a second part that has a largely forwardly-facing surface that abuts said first connector body to limit rearward movement of said first connector body, and said means for urging also includes a pair of rod devices that each is slideably mounted in said frame, said rod devices forming said front surface locations and having forwardly-facing surfaces that abut said backup to limit rearwardly sliding of said backup with respect to said rod devices, said body springs bias said rod devices forwardly while allowing them to move rearwardly
10 against biasing of said body springs.

Claim 14 (new):

14. The connection system described in claim 13 wherein:

5 said frame has a longitudinally-extending bore with a rear end forming a bore rear shoulder, said rod devices each has a rod that lies partially in said bore and that is longitudinally slideable therein, and said body springs each lies in one of said bores around one of said rod devices;

said rod devices each has a front end forming a shoulder that abuts a front end of said second spring, said body springs each having a rear end that abuts one of said bore rear shoulders, and said rods each has a rear end that passes rearwardly through one of said body spring rear ends and said rod devices each
10 has a largely forwardly-facing shoulder that abuts said backup to urge it forward.

Claim 15 (new):

5 15. The connection system described in claim 13 including a terminus alignment sleeve, said first of said terminus assemblies initially lying in said alignment sleeve in an initial position, and said first terminus assembly is slideable rearwardly from said initial position to a rearward terminus position after the tips of the two mating termini are engaged and said tips move rearward relative to said first body, and a daughter board on which said first connector is mounted and a mother board on which said second connector is mounted, said mother board being fixed in position on a support wherein said support has a guideway that guides said daughter board in sliding toward said mother board until said daughter board is latched in a fully installed position, wherein:

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said standoffs first abut said rod device front ends when said connectors are close enough together that said terminus tips are engaged with each other and said first terminus has slid rearward to said rearward first terminal position.

Claim 16 (new):

16. The connection system described in claim 13 wherein:
said first frame has opposite corners, and said first and second rod devices and said front surface locations are located at said opposite corners, and said first and second body springs are also located at said opposite corners.

Claim 17 (new):

5 17. An optic fiber connection system which includes first and second connectors that each has a housing with a plurality of body passages extending in front and rear longitudinal directions, and a plurality of pairs of mateable terminus assemblies with one terminus assembly of each pair lying at least partially in one of said housings and the other terminus assembly of the pair lying at least partially in the other housing and with the pair of terminus assemblies having tips abutting each other, at least a first terminus assembly of each

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mateable pair having a terminus spring that urges the terminus of the first terminus assembly towards the mating terminus while allowing the first terminus to be moved rearward by the mating terminus so the pairs of termini reach fully mated positions, a first of said housings includes a first frame and a first body that is slideable rearwardly from an initial position to a rearward position with respect to said first frame, and a plurality of body springs that urge said first body forwardly with respect to said first frame toward said initial position when said frame has continued to move forward but said body has not, wherein;

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when all of said passages contain terminus assemblies and said connectors are fully mated, the total force applied by said terminus springs to said first body urging it rearwardly is a predetermined value;

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the total force applied by said body springs urging said first body forwardly with respect to said frame is greater than said predetermined value, whereby to assure that said termini are all fully mated before said first body can stop moving forward as said first frame continues to move forward.

Claim 18 (new):

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18. An optic fiber connection system which includes first and second connectors that each has a housing with a plurality of body passages extending in front and rear longitudinal directions, and a plurality of pairs of mateable terminus assemblies each terminus assembly lying at least partially in a passage of a different one of said housings and each pair of terminus assemblies being mateable by tips of termini of the pair abutting each other, at least a first terminus assembly of each mateable pair having a terminus spring that urges a terminus of the first terminus assembly towards the mating terminus while allowing the first terminus to be moved rearward by the mating terminus so the pairs of termini reach fully mated positions, a first of said housings includes a first frame and a first body that is slideable rearwardly from an initial position to a rearward position with respect to said first frame, including;

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a backup with portions that lie behind said first frame and behind said body;
at least two bores extending in forward and rearward directions through said first frame, and at least two holes extending through said backup;

at least two rod devices each extending through one of said bores and one of said holes and having a rear end that abuts said backup, and each rod device having a front end accessible from the front of said frame;

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at least two body springs that each biases one of said rods forwardly with respect to said frame;

said second connector having a pair of standoffs each positioned to engage the front end of one of said rods as said connectors approach each other to mate their pairs of terminus assemblies.